

CHEPSTOW RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1947.



CHEPSTOW RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

LIST OF RURAL DISTRICT COUNCILLORS.

Chairman: Mr. J.W.Price.

Vice-Chairman: Mr. F.C.Walker.

Councillors.

Mr.R.J.Anstey.	Mr.W.W.Jones.
Mr.F.Arnold.	Mr.A.H.Morgan.
Mr.W.H.Baker.	Mr.G.H.Morgan.
Mr.R.G.Benjamin.	Mr.R.A.Newall.
Mr.A.J.Bevan.	Mrs.M.E.Paget.
Mr.D.T.Coleman.	Mr.S.H.W.Paine.
Rev.I.Davies.	Mr.D.H.Parry.
Mr.W.H.Gale.	Mr.W.W.Powell.
Mr.E.Griffiths.	Mr.H.L.Price.
Mr.J.E.Hancock.	Mr.M.G.Price.
Mrs.G.I.Heath.	Mr.T.H.E.Price.
Mr.S.M.Hill.	Mr.C.R.Read.
Mr.H.Hughes.	Mr.T.S.Rowlands.
Mr.L.Jelly.	Mr.R.R.Thomas.
Mr.E.Johnson.	Mr.S.J.Thorne.
Mr.Alfred Jones.	Mr.W.W.Titley.
Mr.Arthur Jones.	

Officers of the Council.

Clerk.- Mr.G.D.Spearing.

Medical Officer of Health: Dr. J.J.O'Reilly, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Deputy Clerk and Valuation Officer:- Mr.T.T.Birbeck, F.A.I.

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor:- Mr.L.Whittingham, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
M.A.RUR.S., Cert. S.I.B., Certified Inspector
of Meat and Other Foods.

Additional Sanitary Inspector:-Mr.I.Lloyd Jones, M.S.I.A., Cert. S.I.B.

Water Inspector:- Mr.H.E.Priest.

Rate Collectors.

Caldicot Collection District.....	Mr. R.A.Squibbs.
Mathern Collection District	Mr. M.E.Smith.
Shirenewton " "	Mr. F.C.Price.

CHEPSTOW RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector's Annual Report for the
Year 1947.

Inspections during the Year.

Dairies and Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	75.
Food Preparation Premises	...	...	...	...	...	25.
Bakehouses.	...	...	...	...	...	5.
Food Inspection.	...	...	...	...	...	12.
Milk Sampling.	...	...	...	...	...	20.
Drainage.	...	...	...	...	...	92.
Drain Testing.	...	...	...	...	...	104.
Sewerage.	...	...	...	...	...	98.
Water Supply.	...	...	...	...	...	204.
Housing (Complaints)	...	...	...	...	...	227.
Infectious Disease & disinfection	...	...	...	...	...	68.
Nuisances.	...	...	...	...	...	33.
Disinfestation.	...	...	...	...	...	6.
Shops Acts.	...	...	...	...	...	27.
Housing Accommodation	...	...	...	...	...	70.
Rural Housing Survey	...	...	...	...	...	220.
Interim Development	...	...	...	...	...	59.
Civil Building Control	...	...	...	...	...	171.
Post War Housing.	...	...	...	...	...	15.
New Buildings.	...	...	...	...	...	33.
Housing Sites.	...	...	...	...	...	58.
Council Houses ref repairs.	...	...	...	...	...	89.
Temporary Housing Camps.	...	...	...	...	...	104.
Camping Sites.	...	...	...	...	...	4.
Refuse Collection and Disposal.	...	...	...	...	...	24.
Salvage.	...	...	...	...	...	11.
Petrol Licences.	...	...	...	...	...	4.
Factories.	...	...	...	...	...	3.
Miscellaneous visits and interviews.	...	...	...	...	...	275.

Work Done:- by owners after Informal Notices:-

Housing repairs	...	...	60.
Drainage Repairs	...	...	32.
Nuisances abated	...	...	25.

by owners after Statutory Notices:-

Housing Repairs	...	...	7.
Drainage Repairs	...	...	1.
Nuisances Abated	...	...	Nil.

Notices Served:

Informal under Housing Acts	...	20.
Informal under Public Health Acts	...	63.
Statutory under P.H. Acts.	...	9.
Statutory under Housing Acts	...	3.

HOUSING.

Dwelling houses inspected under P.H. Acts or Housing Acts.	...	303.
Number of inspections made for the purpose.	...	447.
Number of houses inspected under Housing Consolidated Regulations.	...	220.
Number of inspections for the purpose.	...	248.
Number of dwellinghouses injurious or dangerous to health.	...	19.
Number of dwellinghouses not in all respects fit for human habitation.	...	128.
Number of houses rendered fit by informal action.		91.

PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 9,10, & 16 of HOUSING ACT, 1936.

Number of houses in respect of which notices were served	-	Nil.
Number of houses rendered fit by Statutory action (by owners)	-	Nil.

PROCEEDINGS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

Number of houses in respect of which notices were served	-	Nil.
Number of houses rendered fit by Statutory action	-	Nil.

PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 11 and 13 of HOUSING ACT, 1936.

Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.	-	Nil.
Number of houses demolished.	-	Nil.

OVERCROWDING.

11 cases of overcrowding were discovered during routine housing inspections, but no action was taken owing to the general lack of housing accommodation.

BUILDING BYELAWS AND PLANNING.

During the year, 60 plans for buildings and alterations were approved, 8 of which were subject to temporary licence.

CONTROL OF CIVIL BUILDING.

During the year 182 Building Licences were issued in respect of work of a total estimated cost of £14,085. In connection with these works 48 certificates of essential repair, 15 W.B.A. certificates for Priority of Materials, 3 form M's, and 30 certificates under the Control of Building and Materials Order were issued.

MILK AND DAIRIES.

During the year, 10 applications for registration of cowsheds and dairies were considered and approved. 18 samples of milk were collected and submitted for bacteriological analysis, 13 proved unsatisfactory and 5 were satisfactory. Improvements were carried out to 7 cowsheds during the year and limewashing requested at 14 premises.

ICE CREAM.

Two premises were registered for the storage and sale of ice-cream, and one for the manufacture, storage, and sale of a "cold mix" ice-cream. In respect of the latter establishment registration was withheld, pending the provision of suitable premises, these were provided and registration proceeded. There have been no complaints regarding ice-cream sold in the district, and frequent inspections are made of all registered premises. Number of samples taken - Nil.

MEAT AND OTHER FOOD.

CONDEMNED DURING THE YEAR AND DESTROYED.

1 Pig carcase and all the offal (generalised T.B.)		360 lbs.
Butchers Meat (Decomposition)	...	96 lbs.
Fat (Necrosis)		7 lbs.
Cheese (Decomposition)		34 lbs.
Tinned Milk (Blown and damaged)	...	74 tins
Miscellaneous Tinned Foods (fruit, vegetables, fish and meat) blown and damaged		53 tins.
Jam		2 lbs.

SALVAGE.

During the year the amount of salvage material available for collection has shown a slight increase. Regular salvage collections were arranged for the whole district and notices showing the dates of collection at each part of the district were published.

Salvage sales were as follows :-

	£	s	d
Swill	7	16	0
Bottles and jars	9	6	11
Paper	51	12	5
Selected Waste	12	19	0
Rags and sacking	10	6	0

Total - £92. 0. 4d.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Parishes of Portskewett, part of Caldicot, Rogiet, and Undy, are supplied with water purchased in bulk from the Chepstow Water Company and distributed through the Council's own mains.

Throughout the year the quality has remained satisfactory both chemically and bacteriologically.

In quantity the supply has been satisfactory, with the exceptions of high levels at Undy and Brockwells, where at times the pressure was poor and the supply occasionally intermittent.

Highmoor Hill, in the Parish of Caldicot, is supplied with water purchased in bulk from Newport Corporation. Quality has remained satisfactory, but at high levels the supply has been intermittent. It is hoped that final approval for carrying out the proposed connection to Admiralty mains at Five Lanes will soon be forthcoming.

The Parish of Caerwent and parts of Mathern, are supplied with water from Chepstow Water Company. It is carried to Mathern Village through the Company's own mains, and to parts of Mathern Parish and Caerwent through Monmouthshire County Council's mains. Quality has been satisfactory, but the pressure has been poor on some sections served by the County Council's mains.

The Parish of Devauden is supplied by a scheme installed by the Council. Hydraulic rams raise the water from the source to a high level storage tank from where it gravitates. The supply has remained satisfactory during the year.

The Village of St. Arvans is supplied by a small water scheme. During the year one bacteriological sample proved unsatisfactory. Chemically there is slight plumbo-solvency. Iron pipes are used on the scheme. The quantity has been generally satisfactory.

The remainder of the District is served by small private schemes, wells and springs. The quality of water from some of these sources is unsatisfactory and the provision of piped supplies is the only satisfactory solution.

Results of bacteriological and chemical samples of water taken during the year were as follows :-

Parish.	Samples		Public Supply	Private Supply	Raw	Treated	RESULTS:-			Remarks.	
	Chemical	Bacterio-logical.					Chemical		Bacterio-logical		
							Sat.	Unsat.			
CALDICOT	2	3	4	1	1	4	2	-	3	-	2 of these samples were specifically examined for the presence of organisms of enteric and dysenteric groups.Results were negative.
LLANGWM	1	2	2	1	3	-	1	-	-	2	
PORTSKEWETT	1	1	2	-	-	2	1	-	1	-	
ROGIET	-	4	4	-	-	4	-	-	4	-	
ST. ARVANS	5	6	6	5	11	-	5	-	4	2	Slight Plumbo Solvency shown on 3 samples for chemical analysis. 2 public and one private supply. Iron pipes are in use throughout.
SHIRENEWTON	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	
WOLVESNEWTON	1	1	-	2	2	-	1	-	-	1	

2 of these samples were specifically examined for the presence of organisms of enteric and dysenteric groups. Results were negative.

Slight Plumbo Solvency shown on 3 samples for chemical analysis. 2 public and one private supply. Iron pipes are in use throughout.

Two samples of the effluent from cesspits at Rogiet School and Llanvihangel Court Farm were submitted for examination for the presence of organisms of the enteric and dysenteric group. No organisms were isolated.

MAINS SUPPLIES

(a) Direct to houses.	Number of dwellings	=	1,638
(b) By standpipe	" "	=	91

HOUSING.

The housing situation remains most unsatisfactory. Cottages which should have been demolished are still occupied and will apparently remain in use for some time to come.

Normal maintenance and repair work is required to many houses and lags owing to shortage of labour and materials. It is, however, fair to say that during the year there has been some slight easing of the acute position in relation to the repair of existing houses.

As to the erection of new houses, progress has been slow in comparison to the amount of preliminary work carried out.

The most heartening feature, however, has been the fact that during the year a start on actual construction has been made on four sites. The position at the year end was as follows :-

ST. ARVANS	(8 Houses)	All in course of erection.
ROGIET	(26 Houses)	Erection of 14 proceeding.
CAERWENT	(20 Houses)	All commenced.
PORTSKEWETT	(16 Houses)	Excavations for roads and sewers only, commenced.

At the year end, preliminary work and negotiations were continuing for houses in the following Parishes :-

Caldicot	Shirenewton
Mathern	Tintern
Itton (St.Arvals Parish)	Undy
	Llangwm.

SEWERAGE. Proposals for Sewerage Schemes in the following areas were forwarded to the Monmouthshire County Council and Welsh Board of Health some time ago :-

Undy
Rogiet
Caldicot
Portskewett
Caerwent
Mathern
St. Arvals
Tintern

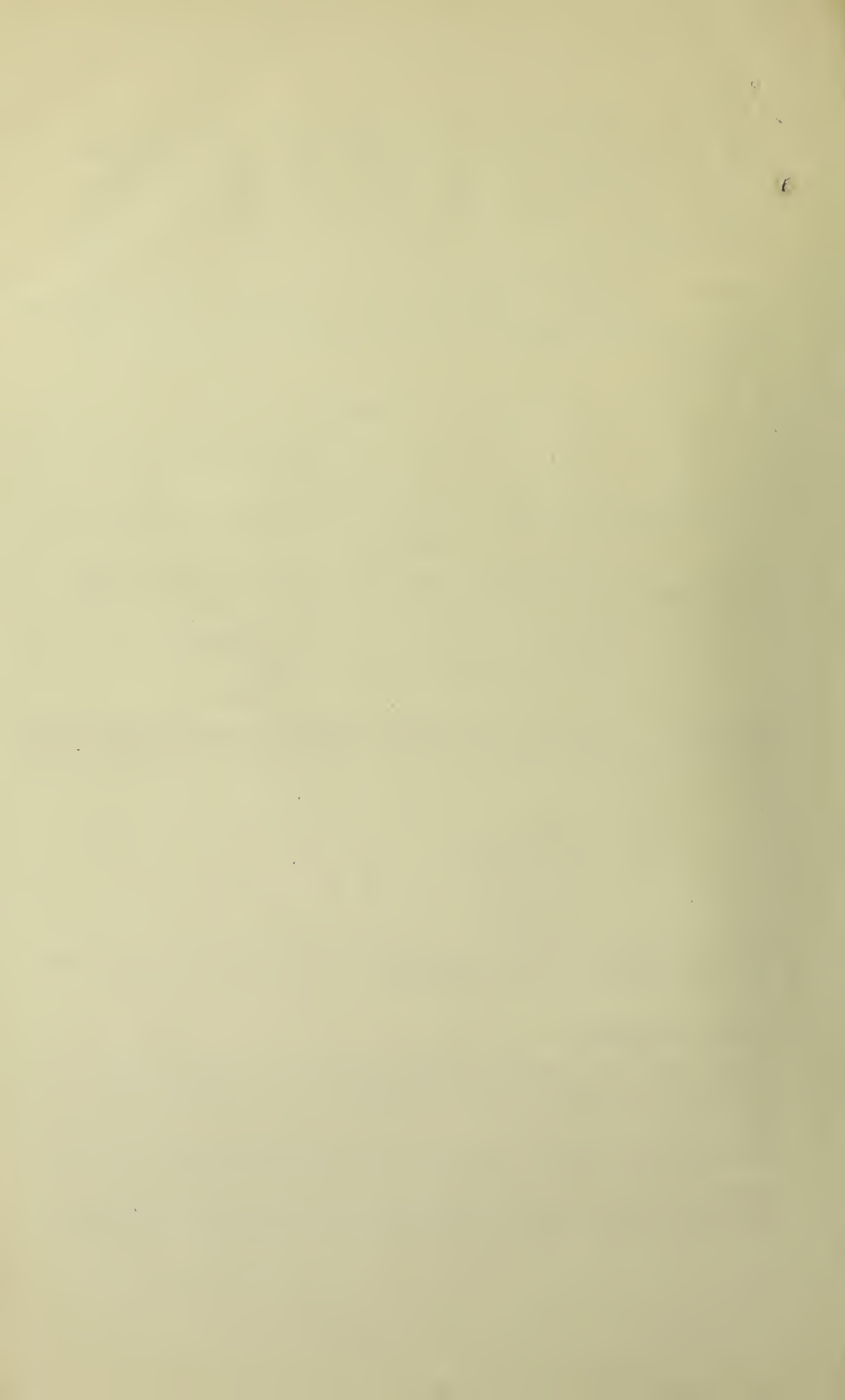
Up to the end of the year no authority to proceed with any of the proposed schemes had been received.

REFUSE COLLECTION.

During the year a scheme for the collection of house refuse, covering as far as possible, the whole of the District, was prepared and approved by the Council.

The purchase of a suitable vehicle was considered and a "Dennis" 10 cubic yards Refuse Collecting Vehicle was ordered.

Delivery of the lorry had not been effected at the year-end, when the position was that immediately on its arrival the scheme could be put into operation.



Vital Statistics.

Area (Acres)	...	42,459
Population	...	9,517

Births.

Live Births

		<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Legitimate	...	95	88
Illegitimate	...	5	3
		<u>100</u>	<u>91</u>
Total ...		191	

Birth Rate per 1,000 population	=	20.07
Monmouthshire Birth Rate	=	21.3
England and Wales	=	20.5

Still Births

		<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Legitimate		0	1
Illegitimate		0	0
		<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
Total	=	1	

Birth Rate per 1,000 population	=	0.1
Monmouthshire Still Birth Rate	=	0.59
England and Wales	=	0.50

Infant Mortality

Deaths in First Year of Life		4	2
Total	=	6	
Rate per 1,000 births	=	31.4	
Monmouthshire	=	44.9	
England and Wales	=	41	

<u>Deaths.</u>	60	<u>Male.</u>	51	<u>Female.</u>
Total	=	111.		

Death Rate per 1,000 population	=	11.7
Monmouthshire Death Rate	=	12.3
Death Rate England & Wales	=	12.0

Maternal Mortality

Deaths from Cancer	=	16
Whooping Cough	=	0
Diphtheria	=	0
Pneumonia	=	3
Influenza	=	0
Tuberculosis	=	1
Diarrhoea under 2 years	=	0

